

Message Text

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14

ACTION AID-59

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FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6497

INFO AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY ROME

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AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

UNCLAS NIAMEY 3097

AFDROUGHT

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJ: UN SPONSORED MULTI-DONOR TEAM ASSESSMENT OF NIGER FOOD
NEEDS - 1974

1. THE FOLLOWING IS A RESUME OF FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS MADE
BY THE UN SPONSORED MULTI-DONOR TEAM:

A. BASIC DATA:

1. POPULATION OF NIGER 4.4 MILLION. MILLET AND SORGHUM HARVEST
SERIOUSLY AFFECTED BY DROUGHT AND ATTACH BUTTERFLY LARVAE WORMS
SEPTEMBER, 1973. GENERAL NUTRITIONAL STATE INFANT POPULATION VERY
MEDIocre IN GENERAL, ALARMING AMONG CERTAIN REFUGEE NOMAD GROUPS.
SOME ZONES DESERTED, EXODUS WILL INCREASE IF FOOD AID STOPS.

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2. FOLLOWING DEFICIT EVALUATED BY COMPARING NUTRITIONAL NEEDS

AND NET AVAILABILITIES MILLET AND SORGHUM. TEAM AND GON HAVE
DRAWN UP FOLLOWING PROPOSED DEFICIT FIGURES FOR PERIOD
OCTOBER, 1973 - OCTOBER, 1974.

MILLET AND SORGHUM	221,700 MT
NFDM	8,850 MT
BUTTER OIL	5,800 MT
CSM	7,300 MT
FISH FLOUR	370 MT

B. RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. TEAM ENVISIONS PROPOSING THE CREATION OF REGIONAL FOOD
FUND TO FEED FLOATING POPULATIONS. FOR NIGER CENSUS BEING MADE
MALIAN NOMAD REFUGEES. FLOATING POPULATION OF FOREIGN ORIGIN
TEMPORARILY ESTIMATED BY GON AT 150,000. IDEA REGIONAL STOCK
WILL BE DISCUSSED AFTER HAVING VISITED ALL SAHELIAN
COUNTRIES IN ORDER TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION POLITICAL, SOCIAL,
NUTRITIONAL IMPLICATIONS.

2. GON WOULD LIKE HAVE 50,000 MT SECURITY STOCK OCTOBER, 1974
AS CONTINGENCY AGAINST POSSIBLE DIFFICULTIES WHEN CARRYING OUT
74 AND 75 CAMPAIGNS.

3. GON WOULD LIKE RECEIVE ASSISTANCE TO ORGANIZE SEED DIS-
TRIBUTION CAMPAIGN FROM LOCAL PURCHASE 5,500 MT MILLET
FROM BEGINNING 1973 HARVEST.

4. PRESENT AVAILABLE STORAGE CAPACITY OPVN 4,500 MT. CON-
STRUCTION 12,500 MT IN PROCESS. 40,000 MT LIFT STORAGE NEEDS TO
BE INSTALLED IN ORDER ADEQUATELY COVER COUNTRY WHICH REQUIRES
TOTAL CAPACITY 57,000 MT. TEAM SUGGESTS CARRY OUT EXHAUSTIVE
INVENTORY PRESENT ALTERNATIVES RE VOLUME, STATE, REPAIRS, ETC
FOR RATIONAL INSTALLATION STORAGE INFRASTRUCTURE.

5. TEAM RECOMMENDS GON TAKE APPROPRIATE MEASURES IMPROVE
AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS, KNOWLEDGE CONSUMPTION LEVEL, AND BUDGET
IN ORDER BETTER EVALUATE FUTURE FOOD SITUATION AND AGRICULTURAL
PLANNING, AND ORGANIZE AID AND REHABILITATION PROGRAM SAHEL.

6. EXTERIOR TRANSPORT EVALUATED (ON BASIS) 32,000 MT MINIMUM
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PORTS COTONOU, LAGOS, PORT HARCOURT, WHICH DOES NOT PRESENT
PROBLEM FOR IMMEDIATE ARRIVAL 40,000 MT AND 180,000 MT OVER
PERIOD EIGHT MONTHS. TRANSPORT FROM COTONOU PORT TO
NIGER CENTERS 12,000 MT/MONTH, FROM LAGOS VIA RAIL/TRUCK 8,000 MT
MONTH PLUS 4,000 MT/MONTH VIA DIRECT TRUCK GIVES 12,000 MT/MONTH,
AND FROM PORT HARCOURT RAIL TO KANO EVALUATED AT 8,000 MT/MONTH
TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION NEEDS FOR CHAD. TOTAL 32,000 MT POSSIBLE
WITH POSSIBILITY INCREASE CAPACITY ROUTE VIA DAHOMEY. PRESENT INTERIOR

TRANSPORT INCAPABLE DISTRIBUTE 30,000 MT/MONTH, HAS 15,000 MT POTENTIAL CAPACITY, WITH POSSIBILITY BETTER EXPLOITATION INTERNAL TRANSPORT CAPACITY AND TRANSPORTING DIRECTLY TO SECONDARY CENTERS. TEAM RECOMMENDS REINFORCING OPVN STRUCTURE AND MATERIAL. FINANCIAL AID PRESENTLY NECESSARY TO INCREASE TRANSPORT MEANS. THIRTY EXTRA TRUCKS NECESSARY.

7. GON CONTINUES TO SUPPORT EXISTING ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURES: CILCSS WILL CONTINUE TO ASSURE CONTROL AND COORDINATION ON NATIONAL LEVAL. IMPROVEMENT CILSS ON ADMINISTRATIVE LEVEL ENVISIONED. OPVN TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR OPERATIONS AND WILL BECOME MORE FUNCATIONAL, AND ITS STRUCTURES WILL BE REINFORCED.

II. COMMENTS ON ABOVE AND ALSO ON NIGER/UPPER VOLTA EMERGENCY NEEDS THIS QUARTER WILL FOLLOW AFTER REVIEW OF GON PRESS CONFERENCE COMMUNIQUE WHICH WAS SCHEDULED FOR OCT 6.BUCHE

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